FD-302 (Rev. 4-15-64)

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

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Date 4/12/68

WALTER LANE BAILEY, owner, Lorraine Motel and Hotel, 406 Mulberry Street, Memphis, Tennessee, furnished the following information:

He has owned the Lorraine Motel and Hotel since 1945 and Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING had stayed there on approximately twelve occasions since 1958. To the best of his knowledge, Dr. KING had never received any threats on his life while staying at the hotel. To his knowledge, no one had been acting in a suspicious manner, such as asking questions about Dr. KING's whereabouts, nor had he heard of anyone walking or driving up Mulberry looking as if he were "casing" or "sizing up" the location during any of Dr. KING's visits.

He stated he did not know Dr. KING very well but believed he was acting very strangely on April 4, 1968. He said that Dr. KING normally was very businesslike in manner and never "joked around" but on that date at the motel he was very jovial and was "teasing and cutting up". He believed this type of behavior was out of character with Dr. KING's past activities and thought it strange but could attach no meaning or significance to it.

Mr. BAILEY said he heard what he thought was a shot at approximately 6:00 p.m., on April 4, 1968, while he was in the northern lower section of his hotel. He could feel the entire hotel shake when the shot went off. He ran outside and looked up and saw Dr. KING lying on the balcony in front of his room, which was #306. He said confusion was all around the hotel and he could not recall any details after looking up at Dr. KING.

He said he had absolutely no information or thoughts on the assassination of Dr. KING but would notify the FBI should he acquire any information of value.

On 4/4/68 at Memphis, Tennessee File # Memphis 44-1987 - Sub D-2

by SA STEPHEN M. DARLINGTON & SA JOHN W. BAUER:SMD:cjs Date dictated 4/10/68

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